

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: PARM, PK, US

SUBJECT: ASPEN CONFERENCE ON NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION

REF: ISLAMABAD 8579

1. DR. HYDER LAS CORRECT IN THAT THERE WAS A CONFERENCE ON NON-PROLIFERATION HELD UNDER THE PRIVATE AUSPICES OF THE ASPEN INSITUTE FOR HUMANISTIC STUDIES. THE CONFERENCE WAS LED BY HARLAN CLEVELAND AND WAS ATTENDED BY ABOUT 50 U.S. AND FOREIGN LEADERS IN THEIR PERSONAL, NOT OFFICIAL, CAPACITIES. AMONG THOSE PRESENT WERE NRC COMMISSIONER KENNEDY (WHO IS, OF COURSE, NOT A MEMBER OF THE ADMINISTRATION) AND DEPARTMENT COUNSELOR SONNENFELDT. AMBASSADOR IQBAL AKHUND ATTENDED AND PARTICIPATED IN NEARLY ALL SESSIONS; AMBASSADOR YAQUB KHAN WAS ALSO PRESENT AT A FEW. TOPICS DISCUSSED DEALT WITH THE IMPERATIVES WHICH DRIVE NATIONS TO ACQUIRE NUCLEAR ARMS; ASSESSMENT OF UNILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL MEASURES WHICH MIGHT BE ADOPTED TO RETARD NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION; AND EXPLORATION OF PROSPECTS FOR MANAGING "A PROLIFERATED WORLD" IF THOSE MEASURES FAIL.

2. ALTHOUGH DR. HYDER WAS CORRECT THAT THERE WAS A CONFERENCE, SHE WAS NOT CORRECT IN REFERRING TO CONCLUSIONS

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REACHED. THE OBJECT OF THE CONFERENCE WAS TO PROVIDE A FORUM FOR AN OPEN-ENDED DISCUSSION WITH A WIDE SPECTRUM OF VIEWS; THERE WAS NO EFFORT TO DEVELOP A CONSENSUS AND CONSEQUENTLY NO CONCLUSIONS WERE REACHED.

3. THE INSTITUTE HAS JUST FINISHED WRITING UP SUMMARIES OF THE SESSIONS BUT IS RELUCTANT TO DISTRIBUTE THEM LEST INTERESTED PARTIES TRY TO MISLEADINGLY CONTRAST PARTICIPANTS PERSONAL AND OFFICIAL VIEWS. HOWEVER, IN THIS REGARD, WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE USG PARTICIPANTS AT THE CONFERENCE MADE RELATIVELY FEW COMMENTS--AND THOSE WHICH THEY DID MAKE CONFORMED TO USG POLICY.

4. WE WILL CONTINUE TO SEEK TO OBTAIN THE SUMMARIES OF THE CONFERENCE AND WILL TRANSMIT TO YOU ANYTHING WORTHWHILE. KISSINGER

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